

CHARTER
United States National Commission for UNESCO
United States Department of State

1. Committee's Official Designation.

The official designation shall be the United States National Commission for UNESCO (the Commission).

2. Authority.

The Commission is established in accordance with 22 U.S.C. § 287*o et seq.* and is managed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended ("FACA"), 5 U.S.C. App., and its regulations, 41 C.F.R. Part 102-3.

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities.

In accordance with 22 U.S.C. §287*o*, the Commission is renewed to implement Article VII of the UNESCO Constitution, fulfilling its mandate that each Member State shall make such arrangements as suit its particular conditions for the purpose of associating its principal bodies interested in educational, scientific and cultural matters with the work of the Organization, preferably by the formation of a National Commission broadly representative of the Government and such bodies. The purpose of the Commission shall be to serve the Department of State in an advisory capacity with respect to the consideration of issues related to education, science, communications and culture, and the formulation and implementation of U.S. policy towards UNESCO.

4. Description of Duties.

The functions of the Commission shall be advisory, and any determination to be made or action to be taken on the basis of Commission recommendations shall be made or taken by appropriate officers of the United States Government. The Commission shall offer recommendations with respect to the consideration of issues related to education, the sciences, communications and culture, and the formulation and implementation of U.S. policy towards UNESCO.

5. Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports.

The Commission shall report to the Secretary of State.

6. Support.

The Bureau of International Organization Affairs, Department of State, shall provide support for the Commission.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.

- A. All funding and support necessary for the organization and operation of the Commission shall be provided by the Department of State.
- B. The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, but may be allowed travel expenses depending on the availability of funds to the extent authorized by 5 U.S.C. § 5703.
- C. The estimated annual operating cost of the Commission, including the full time equivalent salary for the Executive Director of the Commission, related travel expenses, and support for the annual meeting of the Commission, is \$150,000.

8. Designated Federal Officer.

There shall be an Executive Director of the Commission, who shall serve as the Designated Federal Official ("DFO") of the commission in accordance with Sections 10(e) and (f) of the FACA, 5 U.S.C. The DFO shall be an employee of the Department of State in the Bureau of International Organization Affairs. An alternate DFO may also be appointed. The Executive Director shall approve or call the meetings of the Commission, shall publish notice of meetings in the Federal Register, shall prepare and approve the agenda, shall attend the meetings, and shall adjourn the meetings when such adjournment is in the public interest.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.

It is anticipated that the Commission shall meet as necessary, but not less frequently than once per year. No quorum is required. All Commission meetings shall be open to the public up to the capacity of the meeting room, unless a determination has been made in accordance with Section 10(d) of the FACA that a meeting or portion of a meeting should be closed to the public. Timely notice of each Commission meeting, stating the name of the Commission, the time, place, and purpose of the meeting, a summary of the agenda and whether the meeting is open to the public, shall be published in the Federal Register. Such notice shall be given at least 15 days in advance of the meeting date except when shorter notice is authorized in exceptional circumstances.

10. Duration.

Continuing.

11. Termination.

This Charter shall terminate two years from the date it is filed, unless it is renewed or extended by appropriate action prior to that date.

12. Membership and Designation.

The National Commission will comprise no more than 100 members and may comprise fewer if the Department deems it appropriate. Not more than 60 percent of the commissioners shall be representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and not more than 40 percent shall be "outstanding persons" including not more than 10 percent officials or employees of the United States Government, not more than 15 percent representatives of the interests of state and local governments, and not more than 15 percent individuals at large. According to the statute, the Secretary of State is authorized to name in the first instance 50 percent of the principal NGOs who will be invited to designate a representative for appointment. Thereafter, the National Commission shall periodically review, and if deemed advisable, revise the list of such organizations.

In accordance with the statute, to constitute the initial Commission, one-third of the members shall be appointed to serve for a term of one year, one-third for a term of two years, and one-third or the remainder thereof for a term of three years. Subsequently, all members shall be appointed for a term of three years each, but no member shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

The composition of the Commission shall be balanced in terms of the points of view represented.

13. Subcommittees.

The Department may establish appropriate subcommittees to carry out assigned responsibilities, and shall provide such guidance and direction as is necessary and appropriate to ensure the effective functioning of such subcommittee so established. Any subcommittees must report to the Commission, and must not provide advice or work products directly to the Department.

14. Recordkeeping.

Minutes shall be recorded and maintained in accordance with 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.165. The records of the Commission and any subcommittees shall consist of all papers and documents pertinent to its establishment and activities, including its

Charter, agenda, determinations for closed meetings, minutes, reports, and all documents related to its proceedings, including those of any study groups. The records shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying to the extent required by the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. Sec. § 552, at the Department of State.

NOW, THEREBY, this Charter shall be considered approved by the Department of State as of this date and shall be provided to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and to the Library of Congress pursuant to the provisions of the FACA.

Signed pursuant to the authority granted by Department of State Delegation of Authority No. 244-1, dated January 27, 2017.

Approved: Arnold A. Chacon
Arnold A. Chacon
Director General (M)

Date: March 22, 2017

Filing date:
(to be filled in when
forwarded to Congress)